WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A production management system, comprising:

a production line including such product processing apparatuses as a

5   combination weigher and bagger;

a network that connects said product processing apparatuses; and

a plurality of image-taking means for taking images of operating conditions,

said image-taking means provided at each of said product processing apparatuses;

wherein:

10   said network is capable of distributing image information from said plurality

of image-taking means.

2.   A production management system according to claim 1, wherein

said network is an Ethernet or wireless LAN.

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3.   A production management system according to either claim 1 or claim

2, further comprising

control means for controlling said product processing apparatuses based on

image information distributed by said network.

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4.   A production management system according to any of claims 1

through 3, further comprising

warning means for comparing said image information and reference image

information and issuing a warning when necessary.

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5.   A production management system according to any of claims 1

through 4, further comprising

storage means for storing said image information.

6.   A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses, comprising:

image-taking means for taking images of operating conditions of the product processing apparatuses; and

5   storage means for storing image information obtained by said image-taking means.

7.   A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 6, wherein:

10   said storage means stores image information from said image-taking means, said image information relating to operating conditions at a plurality of locations.

8.   A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to either of claim 6 or claim 7, wherein:

15   said storage means stores image information from said image-taking means, said image information relating to operating conditions taken at different times.

9.   A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to any of claims 6 through 8, further comprising

20   abnormality detection means for detecting abnormalities in the operating conditions of the product processing apparatuses.

10.   A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 9, further comprising

25   display means for displaying said image information,

wherein:

when detection of abnormality information is received from said abnormality detection means, said display means displays image information of the location where an abnormality has occurred, said image information being from before and after

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occurrence of said abnormality and stored in said storage means.

11.   A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses in a production line having a plurality of product processing apparatuses, said system comprising:

image-taking means for taking images of operating conditions of the product processing apparatuses;

first storage means for storing image information obtained by said image-taking means; and

an image distribution device capable of distributing image information stored by said first storage means.

12.   A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 11, further comprising

second storage means for storing said image information distributed by said image distribution device.

13.   A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 12, wherein:

said second storage means stores image information of operating conditions of the plurality of product processing apparatuses, or of operating conditions from a plurality of locations at each product processing apparatus, or of operating conditions taken at different times.

14.   A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to any of claims 11 to 13, further comprising

abnormality detection means for detecting abnormalities in the operating conditions of the product processing apparatuses.

15.   A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 14, further comprising

display means for displaying said image information,

wherein:

when detection of abnormality information is received from said abnormality detection means, said display means displays image information of the location where an abnormality has occurred, said image information being from before and after the occurrence of the abnormality and being stored in said second storage means.